

Message Text

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ACTION OES-06

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TAGS: PARM, TECH, IAEA

SUBJECT: US/IAEA MEETINGS ON US TECHNICAL SUPPORT FOR IAEA
SAFEGUARDS

REFS: (A) STATE 243989; (B) IAEA VIENNA A-268; (C) IEA VIENNA
6919 (D) IAEA VIENNA 8022

1. MEETINGS HAVE BEEN HELD AMONG NUMEROUS US EXPERTS IN
VARIOUS SAFEGUARDS AREAS, MISSION STAFF AND MORE THAN 30
KEY IAEA STAFF MEMBERS (INCLUDING SEVERAL INSPECTORS),
EXTENDING OVER A TWO-WEEK PERIOD. THESE MEETINGS HAVE RESULTED
IN TASK STATEMENTS FOR OVER 90 POSSIBLE SUPPORT TASKS
OF VARYING PRIORITIES, IN AREAS OF MEASUREMENT TECHNOLOGY,
SURVEILLANCE AND CONTAINMENT, INFORMATION PROCESSING,
TRAINING, SYSTEM STUDIES, AND FIELD EXPERIEMENTS. THE DRAFT
TASK DESCRIPTIONS AND ADDITIONAL DETAILS OF THESE MEETINGS
WILL BE BROUGHT BACK BY THE KEY US PARTICIPANTS FROM STATE,
ACDA, ERDA AND NRC.

2. AT FINAL MEETING, ATTENDED BY PARTICIPANTS FROM BOTH
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SIDES, INSPECTOR GENERAL ROMETSCH EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR

THE SUCCESS OF THE MANY WORKING GROUPS AND THE LONG HOURS OF HARD WORK WHICH THEY PUT IN TO DEVELOP THE TASK STATEMENTS. HE FELT THE PACKAGE OF TASK DESCRIPTIONS WAS A SOLID BASIS ON WHICH TO BUILD AN EFFECTIVE US SUPPORT PROGRAM. THE SPOKESMAN FROM THE OPERATIONS DIVISION REMARKED ON THE GREAT BOOST TO MORALE FOR MEMBERS OF HIS DIVISION TO BE ABLE TO FULLY PARTICIPATE IN THESE MEETINGS WHICH WILL HAVE SUCH A POSITIVE EFFECT UPON CONDUCT OF THEIR JOB.

3. A FEW OF THE TASKS CAN BE STARTED IMMEDIATELY AND MISSION STRONGLY RECOMMENDS THAT THIS BE DONE WITH AT LEAST ONE HIGH PAY-OFF TASK IN EACH OF THE THREE SAFEGUARDS DIVISIONS (OPERATIONS, INFORMATION TREATMENT AND DEVELOPMENT) WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF TANGIBLE AND USEABLE RESULTS FOR THESE DIVISIONS BEFORE JUNE 1977.

4. DESCRIPTIONS OF OTHER TASKS (A MAJORITY OF THE 90 PLUS) WILL NEED TO BE REFINED BY AGENCY OVER NEXT SEVERAL WEEKS BEFORE THEY WILL BE READY FOR AN IAEA GO-AHEAD AND BEFORE THEY CAN BE ASSIGNED A FIRM PRIORITY RATING IN TERMS OF OVERALL DEPARTMENT OF SAFEGUARDS AND INSPECTION NEEDS. THEY HOPE TO PROVIDE US AN APPROVED LIST OF THE TOP PRIORITY TASKS BY MID-DECEMBER.

5. IN MEANTIME, US SIDE SHOULD ALSO BE INDEPENDENTLY REVIEWING THE TASKS AGAINST THE NEEDS MADE EVIDENT IN THE PROTOTYPE SSIR AND AGAINST THE FIVE-YEAR PROGRAM PLAN IN IAEA GC(XX)567 (TRANSMITTED REF B). THE OBJECTIVE OF THIS REVIEW WOULD BE TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL ASSURANCE THAT EACH TASK MAKES A POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION WITHIN A SYSTEMATIC AND OVERALL VIEW OF THE SAFEGUARDS PROBLEM. ALSO, WE SHOULD BE SURE THAT ALL PROJECTS WHICH ARE CURRENTLY UNDERWAY IN THE US IN SUPPORT OF IAEA SAFEGUARDS ARE IDENTIFIED AS PART OF THE OVERALL SUPPORT PROGRAM - PERHAPS AS SEPARATE TASK DESCRIPTIONS.

6. US SHOULD ALSO CONSIDER ITS OWN SET OF PRIORITIES FOR PERFORMING SAFEGUARDS SUPPORT TASKS, IN LIGHT OF PRIORITIES EXPRESSED BY IAEA OF COURSE, BUT ALSO IN LIGHT OF US VIEWS OF IAEA NEEDS. FOR EXAMPLE, IN THE AREA OF CONTAINMENT AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SURVEILLANCE (SEE REF C), THE AGENCY STAFF HAS PLACED LITTLE EMPHASIS ON THE NEED FOR REAL-TIME SURVEILLANCE IN FACILITIES CONTAINING LARGE QUANTITIES OF PLUTONIUM AND/OR HIGHLY ENRICHED URANIUM. ALSO, IN THE VERY IMPORTANT AREA OF SYSTEMS STUDIES, THE AGENCY TASK DESCRIPTIONS ARE VERY AMBITIOUS. IT IS NOT CLEAR THAT THE AGENCY HAS SUFFICIENT STAFF TO DIGEST THIS EFFORT. SOME THOUGHT SHOULD BE GIVEN TO THIS PROBLEM. IN THIS CONNECTION, SEE REFTEL D.

7. WE HAVE ASKED THE AGENCY TO REVIEW THE TASKS TO ASSURE THAT IF THERE ARE ANY WHICH OTHER MEMBER COUNTRIES COULD MORE EFFECTIVELY AND EFFICIENTLY PERFORM, THOSE COUNTRIES WOULD BE ASKED TO DO SO.

8. IT IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER NOW, THAT TO ASSURE EFFECTIVE AND TIMELY IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS WIDE-RANGING US SUPPORT, WE MUST HAVE THOROUGH COORDINATION OF THE PROGRAM IN THE U.S. THE PARTICIPANTS FROM THE US WHO HAVE ATTENDED THESE MEETINGS REPRESENT A VALUABLE BASE ON WHICH TO BUILD A STRONG CADRE OF US EXPERTISE IN IAEA SAFEGUARDS MATTERS. STONE

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